## **ABSTRACT**

Alkanoic acid derivatives of formula (1) are described:

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## $Ar^{1}(Alk^{a})_{r}L^{1}Ar^{2}CH(R^{1})C(R^{a})(R^{a})R \qquad (1)$

Ar<sup>1</sup> is an optionally substituted aromatic or heteroarotic group;

L<sup>1</sup> is a covalent bond or a linker atom or group;

Ar<sup>2</sup> is an optionally substituted phenylene or nitrogen-containing sixmembered heteroarylene group;

R is a carboxylic acid (-CO<sub>2</sub>H) or a derivative thereof; and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides thereof.

The compounds are able to inhibit the binding of  $\alpha 4$  integrins to their

15 ligands and are of use in the prophylaxis and treatment of immune or inflammatory disorders.